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AMENDMENT TO THE ABSTRACT

It is submitted that the Abstract of the Disclosure is filed as a separate sheet of paper.

ATTACHMENT: Replacement Sheet

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Replacement Sheet

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an apparatus and method for reading information from and recording information to a diffractive optics memory using symmetrical angular encoding. A coherent light source is split to form an object beam and a corresponding reference beam. An optical axis is defined by the object beam being aligned perpendicular to a plane of the diffractive optics memory. A steering mirror is configured to direct the reference beam received from the coherent light source to the memory. A first plurality of mirrors arranged around one side of the optical axis receives the reference beam from the steering mirror and directs the reference beam at a first angle towards the memory. A second plurality of mirrors arranged around the symmetrical side of the optical axis receives the reference beam from the steering mirror and directs the reference beam at a second angle towards the memory. The first angle is identical to the second angle but formed on the symmetrical side of the optical axis.